

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims:

1-7. (Canceled).

8. (Currently Amended) A method for starting an engine of a vehicle, comprising:
a checking arrangement to check, in the event of a starting command, as to whether the vehicle is stationary;
if the vehicle is stationary, activating at least one vehicle brake; [[and]]
after the activation of the vehicle brake, authorizing a starting of the engine;
if the vehicle is not stationary, authorizing a starting of the engine without a brake intervention; and
automatically starting the engine after the starting of the engine is authorized.

9. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 8, further comprising:
releasing the at least one vehicle brake after an engine startup.

10. (Canceled).

11. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 8, further comprising:
in the event a starting authorization is not present within a predefined time period following an existence of one of the starting command and a starting authorization request associated therewith, excluding an automatic start of the engine.

12. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 8, wherein the starting is authorized- only if a determination is made that a drive system of the vehicle is disengaged from the engine.

13. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 8, wherein the starting is authorized only if a determination is made that a clutch of the vehicle is actuated.

14. (Canceled).

✓ 15. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 8, further comprising:
releasing the at least one vehicle brake after an engine startup; and
automatically starting the engine after the starting of the engine is authorized.

✓ 16. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 15, wherein the starting is
authorized only if a determination is made that a drive system of the vehicle is disengaged
from the engine.

✓ 17. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 15, wherein the starting is
authorized only if a determination is made that a clutch of the vehicle is actuated.

18. (Canceled).

✓ 19. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 8, further comprising:
releasing the at least one vehicle brake after an engine startup;
~~automatically starting the engine after the starting of the engine is authorized; and~~
in the event a starting authorization is not present within a predefined time period
following an existence of one of the starting command and a starting authorization request
associated therewith, excluding an automatic start of the engine.

✓ 20. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 19, wherein the starting is
authorized only if a determination is made that a drive system of the vehicle is disengaged
from the engine.

✓ 21. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 19, wherein the starting is
authorized only if a determination is made that a clutch of the vehicle is actuated.

22. (Canceled).